



## News Release

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### ***AstroPower Chosen for New York State Solar Energy Program***

Company Will Provide Consumers with Clean, Reliable, Distributed  
*Solar Electric Power.*

**Newark, Delaware, February 14, 2000** - AstroPower, Inc. (NASDAQ:APWR), a leading supplier of solar electric power products, has been chosen by the State of New York to increase residential solar electric power to New York consumers.

The state will provide approximately \$500,000 to AstroPower, who will in turn match that amount in order to market solar electric systems to homeowners at a reduced cost. Under a bill signed into law by Governor George E. Pataki in 1997, the State of New York will provide an income tax credit – up to \$3,750 – along with assurances that homeowners will be able to connect their solar power systems to the utility grid.

“We are extremely pleased to be chosen by the State of New York for a program to aggressively market solar electric power directly to the consumer,” AstroPower CEO Allen Barnett said. “The combination of state tax credits and easy connection to the local grid will provide real incentive for consumers to adopt this attractive alternative to conventional electricity service.”

As part of the New York Energy Smart Photovoltaics Program, AstroPower will develop a consumer education program through the Pace University Law School’s Energy Project. In addition, the Company will develop marketing/distribution channels that will enable consumers to choose cost-effective solar power while simultaneously providing a connection to the local power grid for the purposes of selling surplus electricity back to the local utility. A new state “net metering” law allows consumers to spin their meters backward when their solar power systems send surplus energy back to the electric grid.

“When consumers realize that solar power carries a tax credit along with the ability to sell electricity back to the local utility and provide back-up power to their homes during utility black-outs, they will truly understand the value of solar technology,” said Howard Wenger, AstroPower’s Director of Grid-Connected Business. Wenger added, “Europe and Japan have had similar programs for years. It is essential to develop these initiatives in order to make the United States more self-sufficient in terms of energy.”

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“New York has been a leader in developing the renewable and clean energy sources that we need for our future,” Governor Pataki said in a separate news release on January 31, 2000. “Now it’s time to use our resources to get these technologies into homes.”

Under the terms of the program, AstroPower will develop distribution channels to market complete pre-engineered system packages directly to homeowners. System options include back-up power supply capability in case of grid outages as well as solar power tiles that integrate directly into the home’s roof. New York State, New York State Energy Research and Development Administration (NYSERDA) and U.S. Department of Energy TEAM-UP program funds will support the cost, totaling about \$750,000, toward a total investment of about \$2.6 million.

#### About AstroPower

AstroPower develops, manufactures, markets and sells photovoltaic (PV) solar cells, modules and panels for generating solar electric power. Solar electric power is used in on-grid applications by existing electric utility customers to provide a clean, renewable source of alternative or supplementary electric power. Solar electric power is also used off the electric utility grid for many applications in the communications and transportation industries and in remote villages and homes. In addition to its new APex™ products, AstroPower manufactures and markets conventional single-crystal silicon solar cells and modules world-wide, and is also developing specialty photovoltaic devices and detectors. Currently the largest US-owned PV manufacturer, AstroPower is one of the world’s fastest growing PV companies. The Company

has leveraged and plans to continue to leverage its resources through research and development contracts with government research laboratories and agencies, alliances with corporate partners, and affiliations with strategic customers. For more information, please visit our web site at [www.AstroPower.com](http://www.AstroPower.com).

*This press release contains forward-looking statements that are made pursuant to the Safe Harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, as described in the Company's registration statement and periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. As a result, there can be no assurance that the Company's future results will not be materially different from those projected. The projections contained herein speak only of the Company's expectations as of the date of this press release. The Company hereby expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any such statements to reflect any change in the Company's expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which such statement is based.*

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